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Prof. David M. Kennedy, chair
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Dear Professor Kennedy,

I've been sent a copy of the S.F.Chronicle's April 21 story quoting you as "outraged" because your "good faith" Pulitzer history recommendations were overruled. You refer to the panel as of "very distinguished historians."One of your recommendations was the knowingly and admittedly mistitled Case Closed, by Gerald Posner.(Please excuse my typing. I'm 81 and it cannot be any better.)

Did any of you prestigious eminences ask yourselves if you were in a position to evaluate that book? By other than taking his word?

Count your blessings, professor! Your students would have laughed you out of class if they learned the truth, which is now available to them. That is in the rushed, unedited and small part of what I wrote published as Case Open by Carroll & Graf. The full manuscript is being retyped and will be available for historians in the future.

Copies have been available for about seven weeks now. I have not heard a word from Posner, Random House or any lawyer of theirs.

In a field in which the competition is strong Posner's is the most dishonest of some pretty terrible books. Deliberately dishonest, I add. He knew what he was doing. Those boasted-of interview, other than as puffery, served only to circumvent the official evidence of which he knew and that disproves his fraud of a book. Some of those he claims he interviewed deny he did. One he said he interviewed over two days denies to me he was interviewed by Posner at all! And then the cribbing!

Books like that cannot be evaluated by authentic experts unless they are also subject experts as none of you was in a position to be. Particularly not from the available literature on both sides.

Please feel free to share this with the other members of your panel. I'll be glad to answer any questions any of you may have.

It is on Posner's vaunted scholarship that all of you would have enticed pointed and accurate criticism from any informed students. What you can check on this in your own library is what he quotes that disreputable shrink Hartogs, who used his women patients for free sex until the court assessed a heavy charge, as attesting to. If you read the pages of his Warren Commission testimony between those Posner quotes you'll find that under pointed questioning he swore to the exact opposite! And that is the basis for Posner's shrinkery, Oswald as the born assassin waiting his historic moment.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

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